

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication in the Office Action that claims 3, 5-9, 12, and 14-18 are allowable. The subject matter of allowable claim 3 has been entirely incorporated within base claim 1. Claim 4 has been amended to overcome the objection in Section 4 of the office action and for clarity. Claim 10 has been amended to depend from claim 1. Therefore, allowance of claim 1 and all claims dependent therefrom is warranted.

Withdrawn claims 19-21 are now canceled. Claims 3, 9, and 11-18 have been canceled.

With respect to the refusal in Section 2 of the office action to consider certain references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement of March 8, 2005 (particularly JP '676, JP '482, "CD ROM" and "Microfilm") on the grounds that no copies were supplied with the Information Disclosure Statement, the undersigned notes that this refusal is improper under MPEP 1893.03(g). This is improper because each of these references was cited in the International Search Report (ISR), and pursuant to MPEP 1893.03(g), copies of the art cited in the ISR, which

issued by the JPO, are made available by the IB to the U.S. examiner in the national stage application. Therefore, copies of such art are not required to be submitted by the Applicants. Accordingly, it would be improper for the examiner to make a next action final if a rejection is made based on such documents.

Regarding the Office Action's request for an English translation of JP2003-92482 and any office actions pertaining to application 2003-168503, the Applicant will submit the translations upon their completion. With regard to application 2003-168502, no office action has issued.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
/James Edward Ledbetter/

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JEL/DWW/att
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